

Smith Bagley, Inc.

Petition for Rulemaking

Regarding

THE EXPANSION OF SUPPORT AVAILABLE
PURSUANT TO THE FOURTH
TIER OF THE UNIVERSAL SERVICE LIFELINE
PROGRAM

April 30, 2009

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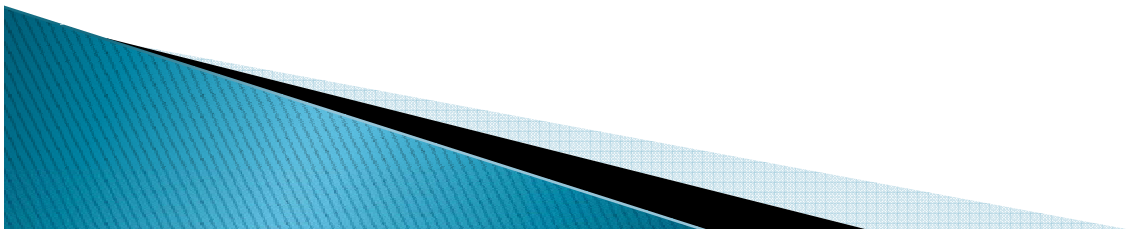
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- ▶ Current Tier 4 support established in 2000.
- ▶ Telephone subscribership has dramatically increased on tribal lands as a result of Tier 4 support, but is still not on parity with the rest of the nation.
- ▶ Tier 4 support has not been adjusted to account for inflation, cost of living, or any other factors.



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- ▶ Increasing Tier 4 support will:
 - ▶ Enable carriers to increase the quantity of service provided.
 - ▶ Encourage increased competition and infrastructure investment on tribal lands.
 - ▶ Have negligible effect on overall fund size.

